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(PTO ASSISTANCE)

(E-File)  
*Query Check*

Application : <u>10/615974</u>	Examiner : <u>Durand, P</u>	GAU : <u>3721</u>
From: <u>SLC</u>	Location: IDC <u>FMP</u> FDC	Date: <u>1/17/2006</u>
Tracking #: <u>      </u>		Week Date: <u>      </u>

DOC CODE	DOC DATE	MISCELLANEOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> 1449	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Data
<input type="checkbox"/> IDS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Priority
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<input type="checkbox"/> SRFW	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
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<input type="checkbox"/> 312	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> SPEC	_____	

[RUSH] MESSAGE: Please re-apply the issue fee to the most recent Notice of Allowance.

Thank you,  
SLC

[XRUSH] RESPONSE: None

INITIALS: R. e.

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REV 10/04



PATENT LAW

Fax: 7325242808

Dec 14 2005 10:47

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Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail

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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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7590

10/06/2005

Philip S. Johnson  
Johnson & Johnson  
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08933-7003

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Stacey Ascolese

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/615,974	07/09/2003	Frederick B. Shelton IV	END909.0511036	1303

TITLE OF INVENTION: SURGICAL STAPLING INSTRUMENT INCORPORATING A TAPERED FIRING BAR FOR INCREASED FLEXIBILITY AROUND THE ARTICULATION JOINT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$0	\$0	\$0	01/06/2006

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
DURAND, PAUL R.	3721	227-176100

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,

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Dean Garner

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc.

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

4545 Creek Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Recordal Date 10/14/2003

Reel 014590 Frame 0426

Recordal Date 1/14/2005

Reel 016150 Frame 0835

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☒ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

☒ Issue Fee☒ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)☐ Advance Order - # of Copies

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5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above. NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant, a registered attorney or agent, or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature

Typed or printed name

Joseph F. Shirtz

Date

Dec 14, 2005

Registration No.

31,880

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